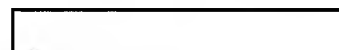


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18 December 1962



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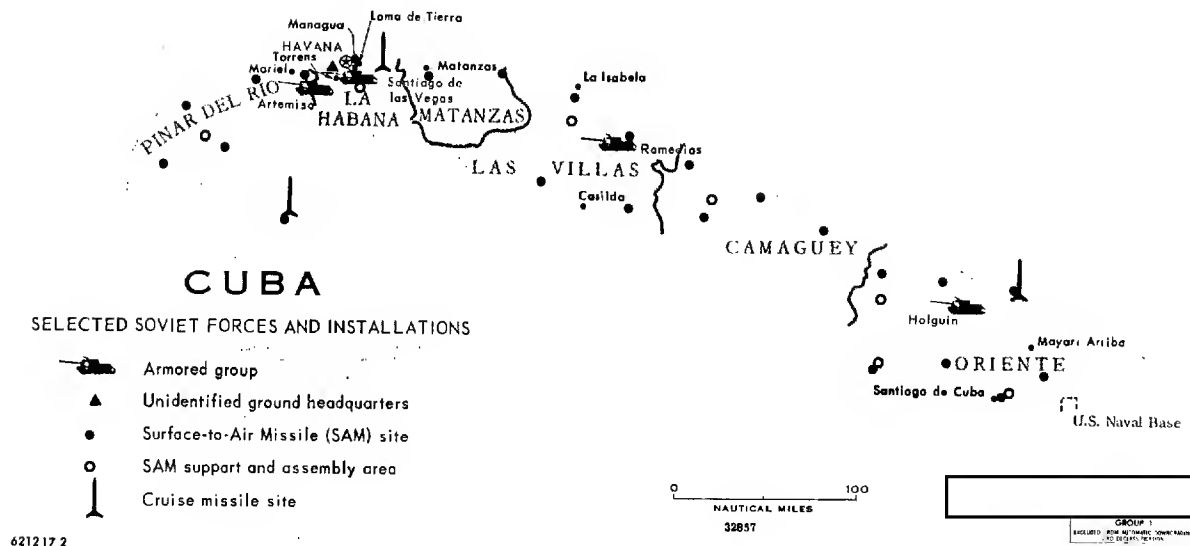
4. Finland-USSR: Kekkonen defers action on US
offer to sell military equipment to Finland.
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*Cuba: Preliminary analysis [redacted]

[redacted] indicated that two military convoys were moving in the direction of Havana. A third convoy was forming near the Soviet military encampment at Remedios in north central Cuba.

The largest of the convoys was first observed [redacted] at Loma de Tierra, about eight miles southeast of Havana. [redacted] the 102 tanks seen there the previous day had been joined by about 90 more and all 190 to 195 were parked off the road. There is some evidence that this convoy may be a Cuban unit, possibly preparing for the New Year's Day parade in Havana. A second convoy of at least 50 trucks was observed near Torrens, ten miles south of Havana.

An unusual concentration of personnel and equipment, also probably Cuban, was observed at Managua airfield near Havana.

Another convoy of at least 37 trucks was forming near the Soviet military camp at Remedios in north central Cuba [redacted] There were no signs of dismantling in the rest of the camp.

It cannot be determined at this time whether some of these movements foreshadow further removals of Soviet personnel and equipment from Cuba, or whether the units are simply being moved within Cuba, possibly to participate in the parade preparations. [redacted]

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Finland-USSR: (President Kekkonen has decided to defer action on the US offer made last September to sell Finland conventional military equipment on favorable terms.)

(Kekkonen fears that Moscow is "so suspicious" that it might well interpret the arms offer as an effort by the US to follow up its success in Cuba by pushing into an area close to the USSR. Word would be certain to get out, he believes, that the US offer was being favorably considered, and he feels that at the moment he cannot risk trouble with the Russians.)

[REDACTED]

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Dominican Republic: Juan Bosch's Dominican Revolutionary Party has called upon the ruling Council of State to postpone for a month the general election scheduled for Thursday.

Bosch charges that a "climate of spiritual terror" persists and that "high government officials" are in collusion with members of the Roman Catholic lower clergy to smear him as pro-Communist.

Bosch, who had been expected to win the presidency, has demanded that the bishops disavow charges by parish priests that he is a Marxist-Leninist as a condition for his remaining in the campaign. The US ambassador comments that the hierarchy is unlikely to give in to Bosch.

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NOTES

25X1 [] Latin America - West Germany: (A number of Latin American governments are showing interest in recent West German offers of military scholarships and orientation tours. Five Honduran officers will probably be sent to Germany for a one-year orientation course, to study at the Hesse military academy, or to serve with the German General Staff. A Bolivian officer is to attend the West German General Staff School, and two Colombian army public relations officers left on 9 December for a two-week tour of West Germany at Bonn's expense.) 25X1

[]

25X1 [] Italy: (Fanfani's center-left coalition seems to be in a precarious position as a result of pre-election in-fighting by the four coalition parties and by Fanfani's rivals in his own party. Fanfani last week gave US Ambassador Reinhardt the impression that he is worried. Reinhardt believes that challenges to Fanfani's leadership are likely when the coalition parties meet next month to discuss the coalition's program.) 25X1

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*Senegal: Forces loyal to President Senghor apparently have forestalled Premier Dia's 17 December coup attempt and Dia's political career now seems ended. Senegal's pro-Western international position probably will remain virtually unchanged but President Senghor may use this opportunity to change the constitution and establish a presidential regime. The internal situation may remain unsettled for some time, particularly in Dakar where Dia partisans may try to provoke labor and student unrest. [REDACTED]

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